

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2363

March 16, 2014

SUMMARY OF BILL: Repeals the judicial evaluation and nominating commission.

Requires the election of all judges in courts of records, appellate judges, and justices of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Any vacancy is to be filled at the next August election and the Governor is to appoint a person to discharge the duties of such office until the first day of September next succeeding the election.

Beginning in August 2014, supreme court justices shall be elected to eight year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled by election at the next regular August election. In the interim, the Governor shall appoint a person to discharge the duties of the vacant justice until the next election. Each political party may nominate a candidate for election to each such office and independent candidates may also qualify for each such office.

Requires the General Assembly to create six judicial districts for election of appellate court judges. Sullivan, Knox, Hamilton, Davidson, Madison, and Shelby counties shall serve as the "core counties" for each district. Beginning in August 2014 and every eight years after, the district shall elect two judges to serve on the court of appeals and two judges to serve on the criminal court of appeals and each judge shall serve an eight-year term. Any vacancy shall be filled by election at the next regular August election. In the interim, the Governor shall appoint a person to discharge the duties of the vacant justice until the next election.

Deletes Tenn. Code Ann. Title 17, Chapter 4 relative to the Judicial Nomination Commission and the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts, the proposed legislation will not significantly impact the courts as the Judicial Nominating Commission sunset in 2013 and the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission is set to expire on June 30, 2014.
- According to the Secretary of State, the proposed legislation will not impact election costs, as the judicial elections will be held during the regular August elections.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a more stylized, connected manner.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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